

# Reflections

UPON

Mr. STEPHENS's Sermon,

Preach'd before the

Honourable House of COMMONS,

A T

St. Margaret's Church in Westminster,

January the 30th. 1<sup>699</sup>/<sub>700</sub>.

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*By a Gentleman who took the said Sermon  
in Short-Hand.*

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L O N D O N,

Printed for the Use of the Calves-Head Club,  
in order to their Conversion.

Price Six Pence.



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**UPON**  
**Mr. STEPHENS's Sermon,**

Preach'd before the  
Honourable House of COMMONS,  
*January the 30th, 1780.*

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REFLECTIONS  
UPON  
MR. STEPHENS'S Sermon

Preach'd before the

Honorable House of COMMONS,

January the 30th, 1755.



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# Reflections

UPON

MR. STEPHENS'S Sermon

Preached before the

Honourable House of COMMONS

AT

St. Margaret's Church in Westminster

January the 30th 1721

By a Gentleman who took the said Sermon  
in Short-Hand

L O N D O N

Printed for the Use of the Calves-Head Club  
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R. D. 1721

Reflections upon Mr. Stephens's Sermon,

ments, that they can neither be at quiet themselves, nor suffer any Society of Men to be so, that will but hearken to what they are communicating their own fanatical Delusions, and Nonsense, that have no other Design than to distract the Body Politick. These Practices have been formerly Arraigned as the Crimes of particular Persons, but now they are preferred by setting up the Idea of a good Cause, and by a Man's infiltration; but now to find this Cause, pursued by a Man that has the Reputation of Learning, a Bachelor in Divinity, and Bench'd in the Law of England, is to astonish and amaze, that is enough to make Men of Temper and Prudence, to think the Church should harbor such a Vice, and thus in giving his way to a Cause, by Mr. Stephens Sermon, directly opposite to his own Oath of Fidelity, Canonical Obedience, and the Purity of the Churches Doctrine, which unap-

Preach'd before the

**Honourable House of COMMONS.**  
**St. Margaret's Church in Westminster.**

January the 3<sup>rd</sup>. 696.

**A**MONG all the various kinds of *Seditious People* that from time to time have *Plagu'd our English Nation*, there have been none so dreadfully *Per-  
nicious and Troublefome to the Peace of England* as our *Government Menders*, who always find something that they think ought to be *Altered, Amended, or Abolished* and are so fond of their own *Enthusiastick Notions*, which rather proceed from *Over-heated Brains*, than *Solid Judg-*

ments, that they can neither be at quiet themselves, nor suffer any Societies of Men to be so, that will but hearken whilst they are communicating their own fanfiful Delusions, and Whims that have no other Design than to distract the Body Politick. These Practices have been formerly Arraign'd, as the Crimes of particular Laymen, that Court'd Preferment by setting up themselves as protect Enemies to every Administration; but now to find this Course pursued by a Man that has the Reputation of Learning, a Batchelor in Divinity, and Beneficed in the Church of England, is so Abominable and Amazing, that 'tis enough to startle Men of Temper and Prudence, to think the Church should harbour such a Viper in its Bosom, as is gnawing his way to a Name, by Methods directly opposite to his own Oaths of Fidelity, Canonical Obedience, and the Purity of the Churches Doctrine, which unhappily came to pass after this manner.

Mr. Stephens being ambitious of getting a Name among a Party that never will'd well to the Monarchy, or the Church of England, knowing the Honourable and Loyal House of Commons did Annually meet at St. Margaret's Church in Westminster, on the 30th of January, to bewail a Crime so detected by God and Man, as the Murder of a King is, he procured the Favour of Preaching before that Honourable Assembly on that Solemn Day of Humiliation, in which so black a Crime was committed, which had it not long since been publicly appointed by the Voice of the whole Nation, that we, and our Posterities after us, should yearly bewail the Guilty Memory of it, it would have remain'd an Indelible Disgrace to the present Age, and to the whole English Name; and yet the Reason is so credibly reported, why he cover'd the Honour of Preaching before this August Assembly on that occasion, was, Because he thought himself able to give that Wise and Illustrious Auditory, sufficient Reasons for the Non-observance of it any longer.

A Bold, Saucy, and Daring undertaking, to Preach against a Law in force, before our Legislators; as if they knew not what was fit to be *Retained or Abolished*, without the Directions of a *Pragmatical Preacher*, that like a *Blind*, and *Bewildred Traveller*, seems to have lost his way; and while he affected to *Dispute* so *Magisterially* out of the *Common Road and Duty of a Preacher*, he fell into a *Complication of Absurdities*; Each of which was a most intolerable *Blunder* in his *Politics*, and may chance raise a *Storm* upon him, that all the *Friends* he has will never be able to *pacify*.

Of all Men living, Mr. Stephens, considering his own *Circumstances*, had the greatest reason in the World to have worn out his Days in the greatest *Obscurity*; and it not only accuses his own *Discretion*, but the *Common Prudence* of all his *Advisers*, to revive the *Memory* of his former (and almost *Buried*) *Crimes*, by setting him up in such a *Celebrated Auditory*, which would carry the *Discourse* of them into all the *Counties* and *Corporations* of *England*, had he behaved himself never so cautiously in the *Pulpit*: And what then might be reasonable expect, when he resolved to *Affront the Law*, and run counter to the *Sentiments* of the whole *Kingdom*; but that his *Abominable* and not to be named *Crimes*, with which he was accused by his *Scholars*, when he was *School-Master* of *Bristol*, and for which he run away from that *City* for fear of being *Prosecuted*, should be revived to his *Eternal Infamy*, and *Hatred* of all *Mankind*. Which if his *Advisers* had considered, they would never have cast such an *Odium* upon their own *Tenners* and *Politicks*, as to have published them by a *Man* of Mr. Stephens's *Character*.

However up he comes with his *Usual Confidence* into *St. Margaret's Pulpit*, and having named his *Text* out of *Titus* the 3d. Verse the 1st. Put them in mind to be subject to *Principalties* and *Powers*, to obey *Magistrates*, and to be ready to

every

Reflections upon Mr. Stephens's Sermon,  
wherein Quod Wank. Which Text in its genuine Interpretation  
imports nothing else, but that all Christians should Peaceably  
submit themselves to the Government under which they  
live: yet he that always had the Ill luck to spy more in a  
Text than all the rest of his Brethren, endeavour'd to prove  
(tho' with very ill success) the Doctrine of Disobedience to  
Princes, from the same Text that Preaches up Obedience to  
Authority, as the Indispensible Duty of every Christian;  
and do not say he urg'd Resistance in Express Words, for  
there was a vein of Crafty and Ambiguous Sense and Expressi-  
on, that run through his whole Sermon, which might have  
fitted the Mouth of a Knave, or a Marian, but ill became  
one that would be thought a Minister of Jesus Christ, and a  
true Son of the Church of England. He has indeed a peculiar  
Knack at wounding with Sly, Oblique, and Paltry Suggesti-  
ons; at Stabbing and looking another way, as if he were  
wholly Innocent and Unconcern'd, which might pass at a  
Tables end over a Bottle amongst his *Cranks* of the Faction;  
but he was mightily mistaken, to think he could Top upon  
a whole Parliament, or so disguise his Notions, that they  
could not apprehend that his Raking up the pretended faults  
of Afflicted Majesty, was a Base and Cowardly Assault, some-  
what more than Barbarous and Inhumane; and his Leveling  
the Supreme Authority below its just Rights, was but a trick  
to usher in Confusion, or which is worse, beget a misunder-  
standing between the Royal Head and Loyal Members, as if  
they would inroach upon the Sovereignty, and therefore  
those great Men put such a Slight upon this *Confident* Preva-  
ricator, as would have broken any English Man's Heart, but  
Mr. Stephens's, or at least have made him follow his Bristol  
Brother in Iniquity Emanuel Heath, into Jamaica, who both  
fled from Bristol almost at the same time, and upon the very  
same occasion.



It cannot be imagined I should answer every *Heterodox* Notion in his *Sermon*; I shall therefore only reflect upon the main Design; and be indebted to him for the rest; till he Prints his *Sermon*.

His Flirting at the Doctrine of *Passive Obedience*, was only putting Swords into the Hands of Madmen, who know no other use of it, but either to destroy themselves, or the Peace of the Kingdom; for no Man can have any honest Design that Preaches against it. 'Tis true, the Words were abused in the late Reign, and is at all times when employ'd to countenance an *Insupportable Tyranny*, and that has made the Words generally *disaffectionable* to *English Men* since the Revolution; which all Antimonarchists being sensible of, when they have a mind to inveigh against *Obedience to Authority*, 'tis but Tacking the Word *Passive* to *Obedience*, and their Work is done: For it creates an Aversion in unthinking People, who cannot distinguish between the Use and the Abuse of things; and because 'twas once applied to Ill Purposes, run away with that mistake *ad infinitum*, and think the Men that inveigh against *Passive Obedience*, are the only Asserters of true *English Liberty*: Which is a grand mistake, and instead of jolling Men asleep in an Error so pernicious to the Peace of the Kingdom, ought to Alarm this Stupid Humour into a sense of Danger, or the Folly will be an unaccountable, as the Mischiefs will be insupportable, if ever this *Seditious Hot-headed Crew* of Republicans, be once more suffered to have the Steerage of Publick Affairs; who are a Proud and Ambitious sort of People, only valuable in their Concessions, and now *Hand with the Jacobites* only to reduce us into a State of *Anarchy*.

Some Men through Ignorance might imbibe Notions of Disobedience, as others think it lawful upon extraordinary Occasions, where *Sic Vult se Jubeo* is a Law, and the King's Will is made the Political Standard; but for a Man of Mr. Stephens's Learning, to Preach up the Doctrine of Resistance in a time of Peace, when there is no occasion to blow the Coals, when we have a King of our own choice, whom the Nation Intirely Love and Honour, as being a *Valiant and Brave Prince*, undoubtedly the greatest *Heroe* of his Age, and has a *Soul* large enough to *Animate* more than three Kingdoms, was such an Ungenerous, Dastardly, and creeping Innuendo against him, and carried such a rude threatening of His Majesty, if he should happen to disoblige the Faction, that the Preacher ought to be treated with a Scorn, and Contempt, unworthy to the Baseness of the Enterprise. Since he cannot but know, that the *Doctrines of Passive Obedience and Non-Resistance* in their just Latitude, and Evangelical Importance, are Truths as *Sacred* as any other Humane Duty in the *Bible*, and without the Belief and Practice of it, the World will be no better than a *Savage Wilderness*, and a Habitation of *Wolves and Tygers* in Humane Shape, Rending and Devouring one another.

To accomplish this wicked End must needs be the great Design of our Popular Orator, for did he sit only harang'd about the tremendous Consequences of *Passive Obedience*, he studiously conceal'd the fatal Consequences of *Rebellion*, which will be ever found to be more Durable and Mischievous. This *St. Paul* will know, and therefore founded this important and Inviolable Du-



ty, upon Reasons that are perpetual and unalterable, as  
namely, that the Supream Magistrate is the Ordinance  
of God: His Power is ordain'd of God; He is the Mi-  
nister of the great Immutable God, and not of the Giddy  
and Capricious Multitude: Now these Reasons hold  
good equally at all times, subsist under all the Alterati-  
ons of the World, are the same now in England that they  
were heretofore at Rome, and consequently the Duty of  
Obedience must be the same, Yesterday, to Day, and  
for ever. And yet what pains has Mr. Stephen taken to  
lessen, if not, encourage (by Saint Strokes) the Crying  
and Diabolical Sin of *Rebellion*, which is so Dangerous  
and infinitely encroaching, that if it be not stifled in its  
Seed and Principles, it will when kindled bid defiance to  
all Controul, and run along like an irresistible Consta-  
gration. And tho the Preacher employ'd all his Art in  
Mincing and Palliating, the Matter, it will be found a  
Maxime of Eternal Vainety, that whoever gives  
Power to any Subjects to rise up against a Good King,  
or Preach it up as lawful so to do, gives *License* to others  
to re-act the same *detestable* *Tragedy*, which the whole Land  
mourns for every Thirtieth of January.

The Preachers next Design was to assert the *Liberty*  
of the Subject, an excellent thing when Honestly used, and  
Reasonably intended: but to what purpose he insisted up-  
on that Topic now, when blessed be God we have a  
Prince that neither does, nor intends to infringe our *Privi-  
leges*, or Deprive us of our *Rights*, but has given us  
all the Legal Securities a Parliament could ask for our fu-  
ture Peace and Happiness. When there are no Com-  
plaints that our *Rights* are invaded, our *Properties* U-  
surped, or our *Liberty* infringed, and the whole Nati-  
on

on sit under their own Vines in Peace and Tranquility, I cannot imagine, unless he intended to Introduce a *Belaine Liberty*, for Men to say and do what they please: A Liberty of affronting the Government, and of Improving and practising upon invented *Fears* and *Possibilities*, till they have brought us into Vassalage to their own Party,

- Now to Antidote this *Venome*, and to shield our selves from the Danger and Delusion, so artfully Insinuated by our *Bisatious Predicator*, is to judge of the Designs by the Men that promotes them; for all the Arts imployed by our Enemies, tho' never so cunningly disguised, are but the Sly Impositions of Cunning Knaves, to advance their own Party: And therefore when we see ill Men take up a fit of pretended Zeal, and Kindness for their Country, and appear better Natured than consists with their *Principles* and avowed *Interests*, 'tis time to
- suspect a *Fraud*, and weigh their *Words* with their *Practices*, before we believe them further than consists with the safety of the Government, for the *Men* and their *Designs* can never be parted.

*Liberty* is the greatest Glory of a People; yet if it be not bounded by the Laws of *Reason* and *Religion*, 'tis the greatest *Makebate* in the World, and tends directly to the Ruine of every Community, by the known Rule, *That the best things corrupted become the worst*. Liberty perverted into Contention for Superiority, is but *Trapaing* and *Deluding Men* into *Real Slavery*; Catching them with *Words*, and Decoying them into *Nets* and *Snares*. 'Twas the Affectation of this, that made our first Parents *Rebel* against *God*, and prompted Seditious Men, to *Re*

before the House of Commons, Jan. 30. 169

bel against his Vicegerents on Earth: 'Twas a Sin of this Completion, that occasion'd the Unparalell'd Murder of Charles the First, for which our Land mourns at this very Day, and which seems like the first Transgression, to continue a lasting Curse and Debt upon Posterity.

Another Obliging Instance of his Dear Respects to Monarchy, was Investing the Sovereign and Supreme Power in the People, and how that conflicts with his Duty as a Subject, or with his Repeated Oaths as a Clergyman, I leave him to Consider and Repent of, least he falls under an Ecclesiastical Censure also.

Sure Mr. Stephens when he was advancing the Imaginary Power of the People, thought he was Preaching at Westtan-Under-Edge in Gloucestershire, where he us'd to Vind the Popular Notions by Wholesale, with now and then a Gird at the Established Church, to make his Discourse more Palatable to the Carders and Spinners, and not in St. Margaret's Church at Westminster, whole Auditors were not accustomed to such Dissol and Republican Discourses, till their Ears were Violated by this Imposter, who could design nothing but mischief by it: for in a Monarchical Government, God's Vicegerency ought not to be delegated to any other Head but what is Anointed, nor unaccountably scattered among the Multitude: For as Dividing a Power which is only late by being Intire, derogates from the King's Supremacy; so it is destructive to the Peoples Liberty, as it Intoxicates them, and makes them stagger from one Form of Government to ano-



will scarce be capable of any better Preferment, than  
Chaplain in Ordinary to the Court, and that in that  
Post, and Residence, in Memory of the most Barbarous  
Murder that the Sun ever saw, on Mon. 30. Devils and  
capable of committing, which was the

... of this blessed Monarch's Tragedy, and humbly  
Sermons generally, began, or left their Esteem, by  
their being tuted, or running Counter to the Occasion  
for which they were intended, and how our Author has  
acquitted himself in this particular, is apparent, so  
was a Day of Humiliation for the Murder of a King by  
Rebellious Subjects, and instead of humbly perorating  
his Auditors to be Zealous in the Discharge of their  
Duty, he Preaches up the exploded Opinions that were  
the Occasions of that *Barbarous Tragedy*, a Lawless Li-  
berty, and the pretended Power of the People began  
the War, Murdered the King, and brought the Na-  
tion under a Cruel and Barbarous Vassalage, to the  
Meanest of their Fellow Subjects, and his knowing  
the same Causes will for ever produce the same Ef-  
fects, made these the main things he insisted upon on  
the Thirtieth of January, whereon nothing like a  
Christian, or indeed a Man, besides his wretched self  
could have made the Buffon and Turgidness of so mani-  
ficious a Sermon upon so solemn and sad an Occasion, so  
brought together that August Assembly before which  
he Preach'd; tho' as another Specimen of his Defence,  
he was pleas'd, for Reasons best known to himself, to  
omit praying for the Parliament, and every Branch of  
the Royal Family, which I believe was then com-  
mitted upon that Day by any Preacher in England besides  
himself.

111 *Reflections upon Mr. Stephens's Sermon,*

But it seems our Preacher's great Design, was, to  
*Preach upon the Observation of the Day;* and there-  
 fore instead of Declaming against those *Black Customs*  
 and Accursed Practices, which finish'd the last part  
 of this Blessed Monarch's Tragedy, and humbly per-  
 suading his *Illustrious Ancestors*, as the Representa-  
 tives of the Nation, to be most Industriously Watch-  
 ful, that the same Chimerical Designs and Antimonar-  
 chical Principles, which then inspired so many Ill  
 Men, Misted so many Good Men, and cost a Good  
 King so Dear, might once more Revive, and Infi-  
 nimate themselves again, under the *James the Newer*,  
 and *Charles the Fifth*, and find an opportunity to  
 attempt the like *Mischief*, he would have per-  
 suaded his *Honorable Ancestors*, That the Ob-  
 servation of this Fast, which has always been Re-  
 ligiously observed by all *Parliaments*, should be ut-  
 terly Abolished, and Raced out of the *English Cal-  
 endar*.

A Bold and Presumptuous Undertaking; to Dictate  
 to that *Wise and Honourable Assembly*, and whilst  
 he was performing his part of the Office appoint-  
 ed for the Day, to declaim against the Observation  
 of a Levell Guilty Conscience, should be assisted  
 by the Remembrance of this *eternal Reproach*,  
 which though an *Infamous* has Pardon'd, no  
 Oblivion will ever be able to destroy, and is  
 accountable, that some bad *Writers* can assign a Rea-  
 son for him.

Richard

What



What could Mr. Stephens read in the Faces of these Wise and Loyal Senators, that could tempt him to such an Extravagant Conceit, that they would hearken to such an Insolent Proposal? What one thing have they ever done that might countenance such a Presumption, that none but a Man of Mr. Stephens's Ferocity durst have offer'd to a Parliament, without expecting to be made an Example to Posterity? Had our Prescriptions and Duty Holder-Folk but consulted with our English History, he might have found that a Parliament had the Memory of Charles the First in such a great Esteem, that they Voted Seventy Thousand Pound to build him a Monument, and to pay the Charge of Removing his Body from Windsor to Westminster; by which it appears, that the whole Kingdom thought nothing too much for explaining the Guilt, and Honouring the Memory of that excellent Prince, which had been so Barbarously treated: And tho' the Bill did not pass for the Monument, yet the same Parliament had done another thing before, which in spite of all Mr. Stephens's Arguments against it, may out-last all of that Kind in Westminster, or elsewhere in the whole Nation, viz. Enacted, That the Day of that horrid Sacrifice, be observed as a solemn Fast through the whole Kingdom for ever. And doubtless could they have foreseen, that any Person would have taken the Confidence to Asperse his Memory, or to have given Reasons for the Non-Observance of this Fast, it would

14 *Reflections upon Mr. Stephens's Sermon,*  
have been Voted no less Treasonable than his Mur-  
der. But let us hear Mr. Stephens's Reasons for its  
Abolition. And the first was, *I have long and I shall*  
*show you such reasons as will prove it to be*  
*Because it creates Animosity among the People;*  
which is a very weak Argument, since the very  
Abolition of the Fast would have length'n'd them  
with a Subject to keep up the Popular Animosity,  
greater than ever the Observation of the Day can  
pretend to. In which no question but Mr. Stephens  
will have his Share, for endeavouring to obliterate  
the Remembrance and Detection of a Crime, that  
the Wisdom of the Nation have *Enacted to continue*  
*for ever*, and peradventure he may live to be point-  
ed at in the Streets, saying, *That the Man that de-*  
*tempted to put down the necessary Fast for the Mem-*  
*ory of Charles the First, and by this means the Cri-*  
*me of Regicide may be remembered till Time shall be no*  
*more;* besides, could our Preacher have obtain'd  
his end, an almost Twenty Years *Rebellion* with  
the Miseries, Calamities and Devastations, that at-  
tended it, will for ever keep up Animosity, tho'  
there were no such Day in the Calendar as the  
30th of January. And therefore with Respect to  
Mr. Stephens's Project, I think the best way to ex-  
tinguish the Memory of that Guilty Day, is to ab-  
hor and detest, forsake the Principles, that prompted  
it, *And to remove the Memory of it, and the Remem-*  
*berance of it, as long as Men will be Arraigning Government,*  
Trampling upon the Power of Kings, and making  
all publick Distractions, concur in making way to  
their beloved Tyranny and Usurpation, others will up-  
on better grounds Reply, That God is making In-  
quisition



quisition for Blood, and that the Murder of our late  
Sovereign is Required, and Visted upon this present  
Generation.

Another Reason assigned by our Preacher for the  
Observance of this Day of Humiliation, was, be-  
cause all the Bloody Actors in that Fatal Stroke were  
Dead, and the Memory of their Crimes ought to be  
Buried with them: Which Argument is as Weak and  
Feeble as the Other, unless he could prove, That  
the Principles by which those Regicides Acted, were  
surely to last to all Eternity, as the Authors of  
them are Dead: For till then, the Fast ought to  
continue, like a Bush stuck up by a Charitable Tra-  
veller in a Quick-Sand, to Warn Men of the Sin  
and Danger, which those Ill Men by espousing ill  
Principles, were led into: For as I have said be-  
fore, what has been done, may be done again, and  
the same Causes will for ever produce the same  
Effects.

Now to shew that those Accursed Principles are at  
present more predominant than they were 1642;  
which I can ascribe to nothing but the Looseness and  
Irreligion of the Age, I would ask Mr. Stephens,  
Whether the Commonwealth Party are not now more  
Numerous, Insolent, and since they joynt with the  
Jacobites more formidable too, than in any Kings  
Reign whatsoever? And also I would know, Whe-  
ther they do not take the same Methods, to Unde-  
mine the Present Government under William the Third,  
as their Predecessors did under the Royal Family of  
Charles the First? And I heartily wish the Evil be  
not

not so long neglected till it be grown past Redress,  
or Cure.

Are not our Republican Scriblers the Common Authors of all the Virulent Pamphlets against the Government? Who by Reporting what is False, and Perverting what is True, are forcing Unsteady Men upon the Rock, on which their Fathers were Shipwreckt.

Has not a Bold *Reinigade Irish Priest* Written *Milton's Life*, who Vindicated the Murder of the *Lord's Anointed*, and gives that Wretch many high Elogiums, that once occasion'd several House Debates in the *House of Commons*? Whether he should not be *Living* for what he had Written, in Justification of that Abominable Parricide, and had some of his *New Admired Books* Burnt by the Hands of the Common Hangman.

Are not all that Vile Man's Works now Reprinted? And for fear they should not do much enough that way, Is not an Abridgment of the most *Poisonous Passages*, put all together in the Account of his Life?

And which is no less observable than all the rest; Are not all these Collections made by a *Priest* in *Romish Orders*? And who, for ought we know, tho' he acts the Part of a *Republican*, may be a *Romish* Emassary, sent hither on purpose to Embroyl our Affairs, and to Divide us among our Selves; that at last we may become a Prey to the Common Enemy

of

before the House of Commons, Jan. 30. 17

of our Nation and Religion; for this is but the Old Game Renewed, and 'twould be a Wonder, while some are Rending our Government to pieces, if the *Papists* should not have their Wolves in Sheeps Cloathing among us, to hasten our Ruine.

Further, are not *Ludlow's Letters*, and *Harrington's Commonwealth of Oceana*, in every Hand? And is any thing so common as Calves-Head Clubs of Commonwealths Men, who Nightly Assemble to promote that Interest? Which, I think, if seriously considered, there is as much Reason now as ever, to Antidote this Infection, and not to Gratifie the Preacher in his Intolerable Impertinencies.

But to turn the Tables upon Mr. Stephens, who suffer'd himself to be made a Property for the Service of a Faction; there can be no greater Argument, That the Republicans are very busie in setting up their *Good Old Cause*, than what relates to himself. For some of his Party, as soon as he had leave to Preach before the Honourable House of Commons, Industiously spreading a Report, What Wonders Master Stephens would perform, in Order to Quash the Observation of the *Fall* upon the Thirtieth of *January*.

He sold the Copy of his Sermon to a Bookseller,  
before it was Preached, as I am Credibly Informed,  
for Five and Twenty Pounds: Far fetch'd and Dear  
F bought,

thought, are only fit for Ladies and Commonwealths Men, who never stick at the Price of any thing that may be serviceable to their Faction; which if the Bookseller is not well assured of, he has certainly catch'd a Tartar; for never Man heard of such an Extravagant Rate given for a Single Sermon, which can only make him amends by the Badness of it. But now as Matters are Circumstanciated, and the Preacher finds himself mistaken in the Strength of his Reason, it may so sink the Value of his Sermon, that like the rest of their Republican Pamphlets, it must at last be Printed by a Contribution.

Thus have I as Briefly as I could, Animadverted upon this *Two-handed Sermon*, in which I had been more particular, but for two Reasons.

First, Because that Reverend, Pious, and Learned Prelate, His Grace the Lord Archbishop of York, Preached the same Day, and upon the same Text, before the Right Honourable the House of Lords, in *Westminster-Arch*; and the Lords having desired His Grace to Print His Sermon, you will find in that Discourse the Duty enjoynd in the Text, and the Religious Observation of the Day, Restored from the Impertinent, Clandestine, and Dangerous Summings of Mr. Stephens..

Secondly, He told the Copy of his Sermon to a Bookseller, as I am Credibly informed, for Five and Twenty Pounds: Far fetched and Dear bought.

Secondly, Because the Honourable the House of Commons, before whom his Sermon was Preached, have shewed their Resentments of it, in a Voice and Resolve worthy of Themselves, and Eternal Remembrance. To which I refer you.

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FINIS.

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